I am a Counselor/Professor at Austin Community Collge, and work daily with hearing as well as deaf individuals. I rely heavily on VRS to communiate with my colleugues, peers, students and friends, for both professional as well as personal reasons.

Please adopt VRS reimbursement rates that will cover costs for the recruitment and training of qualified interpreters for the VRS environment.

Rates should also be adequate to cover further research and development efforts to improve the quality and access of VRS including on how to make VRS satisfy the need of sign language users while making emergency calls.

Thank you, Patti E. Singleton, Ph.D. 3607 Capistrano Trail Austin, TX 78739-4304